

Action Lines

Thanks to MedGp staff

My wife and I wish to express our sincere gratitude for the performance of medical staff at the 48th Fighter Wing hospital. These people have truly gone above and beyond, and need recognition.

Feb. 16, a major tragedy hit our daughter, who is 7. Within 48 hours, a sore on her hand became the size of a baseball. The quick actions of the inpatient ward staff and Dr. Mark Scheffer, who was called in, without a doubt saved our daughter's left arm from being amputated.

During her stay in the hospital and three surgeries to her hand, the staff in the inpatient ward went well above any praise my wife and I can ever give them.

For instance, SrA. Brian Jackson created a wonderful cartoon picture for Nichole that he designed and made off-duty. The picture really brightened her spirits.

Another person, Amn. Thomas Kinder, became an inpatient himself and still found time to visit with our daughter, the day after his own surgery.

Scheffer, Dr. Michael Liet, and the medical staff on the inpatient ward are truly brilliant! The superior surgery and after-

care treatment provided to Nichole during her stay really sped her recovery. My wife and I wish to give them a special thank you.

TSgt. Robert, Donna, Mitchell and Jenna Steiner

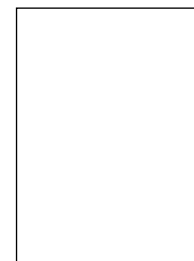
Vehicle lighting conversions

When our car was shipped here almost one year ago, we had to obey British law and have certain lights converted. The conversion cost was \$80 for parts and labor. It was only after paying the cost and passing the base inspection for the lights that Pass and ID would clear the paperwork and apply for our registration tags. Now, we are seeing three to five different cars daily that obviously did not get any lights converted, yet have the British registration plates. Has the law recently changed?

No. In England, the Secretary of State for Transportation issues road safety regulations. Regulation 16 governs lighting. Enforcement is under the Road Traffic Act of 1988. All vehicles must have red rear lights and all white or all yellow front lights, except for turn signals. These items are reviewed during Ministry of Transportation inspections.

Everyone who registers a vehicle on base must present a completed and signed MOT document. Pass and registration people are

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(Action_Line), send through distribution (48 FW/PA), mail (48 FW/PA, Unit 5210 Box 215 APO AE 09464-0215), or hand carry your Action Line to the public affairs office (Bldg. 1085). You may remain anonymous; to receive a reply, however, leave your name, unit, duty or home phone number, and full APO mailing address. Names will be kept confidential.

48th Fighter Wing commander

not authorized to inspect vehicles or issue an MOT document. If an individual has the proper paperwork, we process it to register the vehicle.

Remember, the security police, as well as British authorities, issue tickets for all vehicles that don't comply with the British vehicle code.

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The public affairs office reserves the right to edit all material submitted for publication. Contact the editor in Bldg. 1085, call Ext. 5640, e-mail Jet_48@48fw.lakenheath.af.mil or fax Ext. 5637.

<http://www.lakenheath.af.mil/current/jet48.htm>

On the cover

Illustration by Dianna Slater

Dianna Slater, RAF Lakenheath Elementary School 3rd-grade student, depicts her military family. For information about wing activities during the Month of the Military Child, see page 14.

Liberty Wing reaches AFAF campaign goal

By 2nd Lt. Evan Pitts
AFAF project officer

Our installation goal for the 1997 Air Force Assistance Fund campaign was \$39,183. As a community, we met that goal, and numbers continue to grow as the final amount is calculated.

The Air Force places high demands on the men and women who fill its ranks. This demanding lifestyle not only affects military members but also impacts their families. These unsung heroes didn't necessarily sign up to the Air Force way but are the force's backbone. The support provided by families to military members has a vital yet immeasurable impact on the mission.

Unfortunately, difficult times can strike any family. The Air Force provides assistance but is limited in the help it can provide.

Where the Air Force stops, charitable organizations pick up the ball and run. Four of these organizations are official Air Force charities, supported by donations from the Air Force Assistance Fund. They include

the Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Widows' Home, Air Force Village Indigent Widows' Fund and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation. These worthy charities provide a comfortable and secure retirement environment for indigent Air Force spouses and ensure continued financial and emergency assistance to active-duty and retired members.

Once a year, the AFAF solicits our support in the form of monetary contributions. Last year, contributions from the RAF Lakenheath community totaled \$39,000. In return, the AFAS provided \$273,541 in the form of grants and loans to more than 2,000 local families in need. That's a 700 percent return on investment, and this number does not include support provided by the other AFAF-supported charities. This tangible support is why the AFAF is one of the strongest champions for our Air Force families.

Lakenheath's enthusiastic support of the campaign, combined with contributions from the rest of the Air Force, will ensure help is available for our Air Force families now and in the future.